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13. A DNA vaccine composition comprising a Lac shuttle vector that contains:
- (a) a region which regulates a plasmid copy number, wherein said region comprises an E.coli replication origin sequence;
 - (b) a eukaryotic gene expression cassette, which comprises a eukaryotic gene transcriptional promoter sequence, a multiple cloning site and a transcriptional terminator sequence, wherein an antigenic gene is inserted into said multiple cloning site;
 - (c) a lactic acid bacteria plasmid sequence, which comprises a plus origin of replication, and a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein which is involved in replication of the lactic acid bacteria plasmid; and
 - (d) a marker gene that is not an antibiotic resistance gene and the promoter sequence thereof.
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14. A method for selection of a host cell containing a vector, comprising:
- (i) introducing into said host cell the Lac shuttle vector as claimed in claim 1, wherein the endogenous β -galactosidase gene of said host cell is non-functional; and
 - (ii) culturing said host cell transformed in step (i) under conditions in which lactose is the only carbon source,
thereby selecting a host cell comprising Lac shuttle vector of claim 1. --